

Listing of the claims:

Claims 1-20. (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A process for providing a human or animal with at least two active substances, comprising:

providing an unsubstituted at least one polysaccharide, which is selected from the group consisting of galactomannans and glucomannans, in the form of a plurality of granular particles, including a first active substance incorporated into a first granular particle and a second active substance incorporated into a second granular particle, wherein the granular particles each comprise a plurality of polysaccharide molecules forming a lattice structure having interstices, and the active substances are bound within the interstices of the lattice structure, and wherein the first active substance is incorporated into the granular particle before the second active substance is incorporated into the granular particle; and

introducing orally the granular particles into a metabolism of a human or animal, in which the active substances are released in a delayed release fashion into blood of the humans or animals.

Claim 22 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein the active substances are selected from the group consisting of: vitamins, minerals, trace elements, plant ingredients, amino acids, enzymes, and coenzymes.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein said providing step comprises:

contacting the active substance with water;
adding the polysaccharide to form a gel;
gently drying the gel to form a cake;
comminuting the cake to form granular particles; and
sieving the granular particles to a particle size from 0.2 to 2.0 mm.

Claim 25 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein in said introducing step, the polysaccharide molecules move with respect to one another upon penetration of fluid into the interstices of the lattice structure.

Claim 27 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein the polysaccharide molecules are surrounded by an aqueous envelope in at least some portion of a human's or an animal's digestive tract.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 21, wherein said providing step further comprises:

providing at least one unsubstituted polysaccharide, the first active substance and the second active polysaccharide;

incorporating the first active substance into the polysaccharide until the first active substance has been fully incorporated; and

adding the second active substance into the polysaccharide.

Claim 30 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 31 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 21, wherein the delayed release of the active substances avoids a premature antagonism between the first and second active substance.

Claim 33 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A process for providing a human or animal with at least two active substances, said process comprising:

embedding a first active substance within a first unsubstituted polysaccharide matrix;

entraining a second active substance within a second unsubstituted polysaccharide matrix separately from said first active substance;

wherein said polysaccharide is at least one polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of: galactomannans and glucomannans;

preparing a first granular particle from said first matrix and a second granular particle from said second matrix, wherein said particles are 0.2-2 mm in size, said first active substance is incorporated into said first granular particle, said second active substance is incorporated into said second granular particle, wherein the first and second granular particles are functionally separated from one another, and the active substances thereof do not mix or interact with one another; and

providing the first granular particle and the second granular particle to a human or animal for ingestion, wherein the active substances are released in a delayed release fashion into blood of the human or animal.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A process for providing a human or animal with at least two active substances, said process comprising:

contacting a first active substance with water;

introducing the first active substance with at least one unsubstituted polysaccharides elected from the group consisting of galactomannans and glucomannans to form a first gel;

contacting a second active substance with water, wherein the second active substance does not mix with the first active substance;

incorporating the second active substance with at least one unsubstituted polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of galactomannan and glucomannan to form a second gel, wherein the second active substance does not mix with the first active substance;

drying the gels gently to form at least one cake;

comminuting the at least one cake to form a first granular particle and a second granular particle, wherein said first active substance is incorporated into said first granular particle, said second active substance is incorporated into said second granular particle, wherein the first and

second granular particles are functionally separated from one another, and the active substances thereof do not mix or interact with one another;

sieving the granular particles to a particle size from 0.2 to 2.0 mm;

providing the first and second granular particles to a human or animal for consumption, wherein the active substances are released in a delayed release fashion into blood of the human or animal.